# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RAILWAYS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2056
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2016
Punctuality of Trains
Subbareddy Shri Yerram Venkata

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Railways has conducted any audit of train operations to address the perennial problem of late running of trains on certain sections of the Indian Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its outcome;

(c) the sections which account for maximum late running of trains, zone-wise;

(d) the fresh steps taken by the Railways to improve its overall performance including arresting the decline in passenger and freight traffic;

(e) whether there are any plans to provide incentives for running trains on time which will not only improve the performance of Railways but also increase its revenue and passenger and goods business and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the Railways is sensitizing its staff involved in railway operations towards punctuality and if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)
(a) & (b) No, Madam. However, Railway is in the process of getting the audit of train operations conducted particularly over Mughalsarai-Allahabad-Kanpur-Ghaziabad section of Allahabad division of North Central Railway primarily due to major operational problems resulting in late running of passenger carrying trains in the above section.
(c) On Indian Railways, trains delays have been felt most on Mughalsarai-Allahabad-Kanpur-Ghaziabad-Delhi sector, which is facing severe capacity constraints with line capacity utilization being 150%. This sector connects the northern parts of the country to the rest of India and deals with not only passenger traffic but also freight traffic including raw materials, coal, petroleum products, food grains, fertilizer, steel, export-import oriented container traffic etc. A number of steps have been taken to improve the punctuality of Mail Express trains on this route which has improved the punctuality position of North Central Railway as a whole to almost 50% in February 2016 from 42% [cumulative for the financial year 2015-2016 (upto February, 2016)].

(d) Various measures have been taken by the Railways to arrest the decline in passenger traffic, including the following:-
i. Augmentation of on-board capacity by attachment of additional coaches, running of special trains during festivals and holidays, running of suvidha trains etc.
ii. Organizing intensive ticket checking drives including fortress checks etc.
iii. Augmentation of ticket selling capacity through operation of Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVM), Cash-Coin and Smart Card Operated Ticket Vending Machines (CoTVM), Mobile Ticketing, utilizing the services of ticketing agents like Jan Sadharan Ticket Booking Sewaks (JTBS), Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA), Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendre (YTSK) etc.
Following steps have been taken by Railways to improve freight performance:
i. Increasing the axle load for carrying additional traffic per wagon. Length of freight trains has also been increased to carry more traffic per train.
ii. Use of extensive computerization in freight operations to improve monitoring and improve utilization of assets.
iii. Deployment of higher capacity locomotives and higher capacity wagons.
iv. Improvement in maintenance practices of wagons and locomotives resulting in increased availability of rolling stock for traffic use.
v. Improvement of track and signaling to carry the higher volume of traffic.
vi. With a view to reduce empty running of rakes, Automatic Freight Rebate Scheme for traffic loaded in Traditional E
vii. mpty Flow Directions has been introduced with effect from 25.06.2015, wherein rakes loaded in the notified empty flow directions are charged at concessional rates to attract traffic.

(e) Railways have a system of awarding good performance of the employees and the same is adhered to.

(f) Yes, Madam. Railway is sensitizing its staff involved in railways operations for minimizing asset failures, rectification of failures in shortest possible time, judicious planning in operations of freight trains vis a vis Passenger trains etc.
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